

PSYC6530: Clinical Research Project 2

Callaghan

Semester 2 - 2023



THE UNIVERSITY OF
NEWCASTLE
AUSTRALIA

OVERVIEW

Course Description

Evidence-based and scientific methods are the cornerstone of professional practice. In this course, with the guidance of one or more research supervisors, you will be given the opportunity to continue the research project begun in PSYC6505 and PSYC6511, which has the potential to make an original contribution to knowledge in clinical psychology. Teaching is by individual supervision. Students are advised to read the Clinical Program Research Manual for a description of the course requirements.

Requisites

This course is only available to students enrolled in the Master of Clinical Psychology [40187].

Assumed Knowledge

It is assumed that students will have passed courses in statistics and research methodology, and will have completed a research project, as part of a four-year program in Psychology which has been accredited by the Australian Psychology Accreditation Council (APAC). It is also assumed that they will have completed a research proposal as part of PSYC6511 Research Project 1.

Contact Hours

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Individual Supervision

Face to Face on Campus

Contact over the semester will be by mutual agreement with the Supervisor/s.

Unit Weighting Workload

10

Students are required to spend on average 120-140 hours of effort (contact and non-contact) including assessments per 10-unit course.

COURSE OUTLINE

www.newcastle.edu.au

CRICOS Provider 00109J

CONTACTS

Course Coordinator	Callaghan Dr Tanya Hanstock Tanya.Hanstock@newcastle.edu.au (02) 4921 5641 Consultation: Email is my preferred contact however we can arrange a phone call or a face to face or Zoom meeting
Teaching Staff	Your primary (and secondary where relevant) research supervisors provide the main teaching for this course through their supervision. Dr Tanya Hanstock will meet with you as a group once and at least once individually via Zoom to discuss submission issues etc.
School Office	School of Psychological Sciences W210 Behavioural Sciences Building Callaghan psyc-admin@newcastle.edu.au +61 2 4921 5761

SYLLABUS

Course Content	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Critical reviewing of the existing published literature.2. Development of specific research questions and/or hypotheses.3. Implementation of a viable research methodology appropriate to the research questions and/or hypotheses.4. Data analysis and interpretation.5. Reporting the results of research in an appropriate format.
Course Learning Outcomes	<p>On successful completion of this course, students will be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Implement a research plan designed to evaluate a specific set of research questions and/or hypotheses. (Competencies 3.16, 3.17)2. Analyse data in a manner appropriate to the aims of the research. (Competencies 3.16, 3.17)3. Write a clear, succinct, and critical report of the research in the form of a journal article manuscript (5000 to 8000 words) ready for submission to an appropriate journal. (Competencies 3.16, 3.17)4. Present a report of the research orally and visually to an audience in a manner suited to the audience's understanding. (Competencies 3.16, 3.17)
Course Materials	<p>Required Reading:</p> <p>It is recommended you are familiar with the Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association (7th Edition).</p> <p>American Psychological Association (2020). <i>Publication manual of the American Psychological Association (7th Ed.)</i>. American Psychological Association.</p>

COMPULSORY REQUIREMENTS

In order to pass this course, each student must complete ALL of the following compulsory requirements:

Course Assessment Requirements:

- Assessment 1 - Presentation: Pass Requirement - Students must pass this assessment item to pass the course. Students must pass this assessment task to gain a pass in this course.
- Assessment 2 - Thesis: Pass Requirement - Students must pass this assessment item to pass the course. Students must pass this assessment task to gain a pass in this course.

ASSESSMENTS

This course has 2 assessments. Each assessment is described in more detail in the sections below.

	Assessment Name	Due Date	Involvement	Weighting	Learning Outcomes
1	Oral Presentation of Research Findings*	The School of Psychological Sciences Conference Friday 27 th October 2023.	Individual	Pass/Fail	4
2	Thesis*	Friday 10 th November 2023 at 11:59pm. However, the thesis can be submitted earlier if your supervisor agrees it is ready.	Individual	Pass/Fail	1, 2, 3

* This assessment has a compulsory requirement.

Late Submissions Please apply for an extension via Adverse Circumstances in advance if you require an extension.

Assessment 1 - Oral Presentation of Research Findings

Assessment Type	Presentation.
Purpose	To gain experience in presenting on your research project.
Description	A 10 Minute presentation (with 5 minutes of question time post presentation) of your research project using PowerPoint, at the School of Psychological Science's end of year Psychology Conference. An abstract for your research presentation will need to be submitted a few weeks before the conference to be included in the conference documentation (date to be advised).
Weighting	Pass/Fail
Compulsory Requirements	Pass Requirement - Students must pass this assessment item to pass the course.
Due Date	At the School of Psychological Sciences' Conference on Friday 27 th October 2023.
Submission Method	Specific Location will be confirmed closer to the time however, this is a face to face event.
Assessment Criteria	This is a hurdle requirement and will not be marked, just approved.
Return Method	Not Returned
Feedback Provided	Written feedback will be provided from two staff members via email.
Opportunity to Reattempt	Students WILL be given the opportunity to reattempt this assessment. Students may be permitted to re-attempt one failed compulsory course requirement

Assessment 2 - Thesis

Assessment Type	Thesis
Purpose	To present your research project as a manuscript formatted as per 'the Instructions to Authors' for the chosen journal you and your supervisors think would suit your manuscript the best.
Description	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. A thesis in the format of a specified journal article (typically in the field of psychology, journal articles range in word length between 5,000-8,000 words).2. Any relevant appendices including any further analyses such as ethics approval, participant recruitment flyers, participant information sheet, measures, and instructions

Weighting	to authors for the journal you have formatted your thesis for.
Compulsory	The beginning part of your thesis is like a traditional thesis and instructions are in the research manual and look at least two recently approved MCP thesis in NOVA.
Requirements	Pass/Fail
Length	Pass Requirement - Students must pass this assessment item to pass the course. 5000-to-8000-word thesis in manuscript format. Word limits include headings, sub-heading, in-text citations, quotes and referencing but does not include the list of references, appendices, and footnotes. The word limit will allow a tolerance of 10% and any work after the maximum word limit will not be included within the allocation of marks. In other words, the marker will STOP reading at 8800 words.
Due Date	Friday 10 th November 2023 at 11:59pm. However, the thesis can be submitted earlier if your supervisor agrees it is ready.
Submission Method	Online - Via Turnitin on CANVAS and please email the Program Convenor and administrative assistant overseeing the admission process (Maddie Wilson) in S2 2023 once you have submitted it.
Assessment Criteria	The thesis will be examined by one external examiner and one internal (School of Psychological Sciences staff member) if the external examiner has not given it a pass, minor changes, or major changes outcome. The thesis is examined similar to how a manuscript is peer reviewed for a journal.
Return Method	Online
Feedback Provided	Online - Returned Work – 4 weeks once it has been sent to examiners. You will be required to respond to the examiners' responses and make corrections to the thesis as you and your supervisor/s agree. The revised thesis and response to examiners is then sent to the Course Coordinator for approval. The Course Coordinator may also provide you with instructions on improving the formatting after your thesis has been examined so it can be eventually uploaded to NOVA (the final step in having your thesis and this course signed off as complete).
Opportunity to Reattempt	Students WILL NOT be given the opportunity to reattempt this assessment. Student will receive formative feedback during the external thesis examination process.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Grading Scheme

This course is graded as follows:

Grade	Description
Ungraded Pass (UP)	There are no marks associated with this result and you have met the level requirements to pass the course.
Fail (FF)	Failure to satisfactorily achieve assessment objectives or compulsory course requirements. A fail grade may also be awarded following disciplinary action.

Attendance Communication Methods

Attendance/participation will be recorded in the following components:

Individual Supervision - This is a thesis submission course, so there are no lectures except one group ZOOM meeting early in the semester (TBA) with the Course Coordinator explaining the submission processes. The majority of your contact with staff for this course is with your supervisor/s. The Course Coordinator will also meet with you at least once via Zoom (or face to face if you prefer) individually to see how your thesis is progressing and for you to ask any questions regarding the submission process. These meetings will be organised at a day and time to suit both you and the Course Coordinator in this semester. All other communication will be done on CANVAS and via emails.

Course Evaluation

Each year feedback is sought from students and other stakeholders about the courses offered in the University for the purposes of identifying areas of excellence and potential improvement.

Oral Interviews (Vivas)

As part of the evaluation process of any assessment item in this course an oral examination (viva) may be conducted. The purpose of the oral examination is to verify the authorship of the material submitted in response to the assessment task. The oral examination will be conducted in accordance with the principles set out in the [Oral Examination \(viva\) Procedure](#). In cases where the oral examination reveals the assessment item may not be the student's own work the case will be dealt with under the [Student Conduct Rule](#).

Academic Misconduct	All students are required to meet the academic integrity standards of the University. These standards reinforce the importance of integrity and honesty in an academic environment. Academic Integrity policies apply to all students at the University in all modes of study and in all locations. For the Student Academic Integrity Policy, refer to https://policies.newcastle.edu.au/document/view-current.php?id=35 .
Adverse Circumstances	<p>The University acknowledges the right of students to seek consideration for the impact of allowable adverse circumstances that may affect their performance in assessment item(s). Applications for special consideration due to adverse circumstances will be made using the online Adverse Circumstances system where:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. the assessment item is a major assessment item; or2. the assessment item is a minor assessment item, and the Course Co-ordinator has specified in the Course Outline that students may apply the online Adverse Circumstances system.3. you are requesting a change of placement; or4. the course has a compulsory attendance requirement. <p>Before applying you must refer to the Adverse Circumstance Affecting Assessment Items Procedure available at: https://policies.newcastle.edu.au/document/view-current.php?id=236</p>
Reasonable Adjustment Plan (RAP)	If you are registered with Accessibility and have been provided with a Reasonable Adjustment Plan (RAP), please ensure that you provide your Course Coordinator with a copy as soon you can or let your Course Coordinator know that you are still waiting for your RAP.
Important Policy Information	The 'HELP for Students' tab in UoNline contains important information that all students should be familiar with, including various systems, policies, and procedures.

This course outline was approved by the Head of School. No alteration of this course outline is permitted without Head of School approval. If a change is approved, students will be notified, and an amended course outline will be provided in the same manner as the original.

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